



Weather or not to come to Houston!

Did you know there were three weather-related disasters in Texas leading up to Houston 24? I bet some of you wondered if the big event would ever happen. The primary weather events were:



East Texas Floods (Event #1): Severe weather, including large hail, damaging winds, heavy rainfall, and flash flooding, impacted the state from April 26 to June 5. The Houston flooding and power outages made national news for many days. Many people contacted the Houston 24 team asking if the event was still on or if the hotel flooded.

The Derecho (Event #2): On the evening of May 16, 2024, a derecho struck the Gulf Coast from Southeast Texas to Florida, causing widespread damage, particularly in the city of Houston and surrounding metropolitan area. At least seven people were killed by the storms, dubbed the Houston Derecho by the National Weather Service, which brought winds up to 100 miles per hour along with three weak tornadoes. There were lengthy power outages and the severe straight-line winds blew out glass windows in many downtown skyscrapers. This spectacular Houston weather event made national news for many days.

Hurricane Beryl (Event #3): On July 1, Hurricane Beryl became the earliest category-5 storm on record in the Atlantic basin. Beryl caused catastrophic damage and approximately 20 fatalities in several islands in the Caribbean Sea, with an additional preliminary death toll of about 25 people in Texas, Louisiana and Vermont. Power was out for millions of people in Houston, and it made national news for well over a week. We had just about every person coming to our event or considering coming contact us asking if Houston 24 was still on and asking if we had power. The thought of coming to Houston in August without adequate power is not enticing. This also caused room cancellations at both hotels.

A byproduct of each of these major weather-related events was the air traffic situation with flights being canceled, delayed or diverted. Pictures on national news of crowded Houston airports did not put Houston in a favorable position to make travel plans.

AASLH 2024 national book award winner

Hi Ferd, I just received notice today that I was named a national book award winner by the American Association

for State and Local History (AASLH) for my book, *Promising Cures*. The press release (attached) includes mention of my membership in the FOHBC.

In my response to them, I wrote, *"I am sincerely honored and absolutely ecstatic to be selected for this award! To have my book selected by a jury of my peers to be one of this year's best offerings in state and local history is wonderfully validating and makes these past four decades of time, effort, and personal sacrifice all worthwhile."*

Also, I will have the four volumes of my book on display at the Houston 2024 National Antique Bottle & Glass Expo, so the timing of this announcement couldn't have been better; I will proudly show the award on the covers of my books! This is truly a special day for me and I wanted to share the good news with you and all my friends. Thanks for all the support you have given me these past several years,

Andy Rapoza
Conroe, Texas

Metropolitan Milk Company Bottle

Ferdinand, Edward P. Pomeroy was purported to be the first user of glass milk bottles in Texas when he supplied his Metropolitan Milk Company with them in the early 1890s. I dug the only known example in Galveston several years ago, and David Pomeroy (Edward's Great Grandson) came all the way from North Carolina (to Houston 24) to see the bottle. Edward Pomeroy moved to Pasadena after the 1900

Hurricane and the Pomeroy homestead is part of the Pasadena Heritage Park. I attached a photo that Michael (Seeliger) took. Best Regards,

Brandon DeWolfe
Spring, Texas

BIG UK auction story following the SummerNational

I'm completely blown away by such amazing prices—previous high for a UK codd/mineral water was just under £13,000—shattered not once but twice. The blue marble codd bottle made US \$50,673 and the amber pointy-ended codd Hamilton hybrid US \$35,400—two new world records for empty English glass bottles, of any age. The sale made headlines in *Antiques Trade Ga-*

David Pomeroy (left) and Brandon DeWolfe





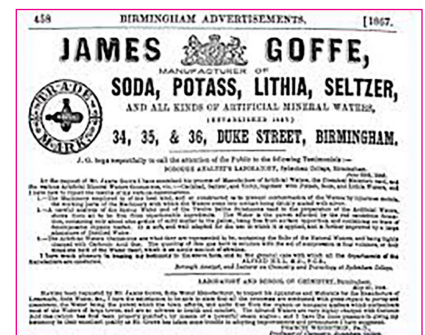
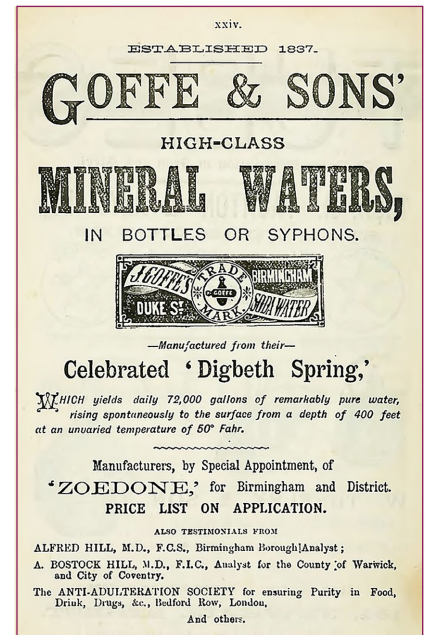
zette, the world's leading antiques weekly publication. Hope all is well over there—I believe David van Loon and Richard Womersley will be representing the UK at the Houston 24 Expo. Hope all goes well for that! Regards,

Alan Blakeman
BBR Auctions, United Kingdom

Picture: Shaun Colborn



Alan Blakeman holding the Goffe & Sons Birmingham cobalt blue codd bottle.



Goffe & Sons Birmingham cobalt blue codd bottle and two advertisements for James Goffe and Goffe & Sons.

139. GOFFE & SONS BIRMINGHAM COBALT BLUE CODD BOTTLE. 7ins tall. A magnificent, superb example, of perhaps the most all time classic UK mineral water bottle ever, the bottle of everyones dreams? A really beautiful cobalt glass colour, not too dark. Crossed bottles pictorial trade mark in the middle of the crisp company embossing. To rear, near bottom, E BREFITT & CO LTD/ MAKERS/ CASTLEFORD. Base embossed 6355. We believe this is the very first offering of a pristine condition example of such a rarity, so often damaged or repaired. Ex Garth Morrison Collection - a bit of real Garth class! Very minor rear mark but in truth exc/ A1 - an absolute gem. A true once in a life time offering to obtain a top of the class bottle. 9.8/10. NR. £8,000-10,000+

Passing the Bitters Torch

Cyndy Forbes, Bill Ham's wife, is in touch with Peachridge Collections (Ferdinand and Elizabeth Meyer) to organize shipping, taking receipt, storage and selling the balance of the three *Bitters Bottles* books. This includes *Bitters Bottles*, (published 1998), *Bitters Bottles Supplement* (published 2004) and *Bitters Bottles Supplement 2* (published 2020). It seems like there is quite an inventory of books to sell as Cyndy counted 186 boxes of *Bitters Bottles* (6/box), 50 boxes (6/box) of *Bitters Bottles Supplement* and 20 boxes (6/box) of *Bitters Bottles Supplement 2*. As many bitters collectors may already know, Ferdinand Meyer V and Joe Gourd have been gathering new bitters information and material since the last book was published, so please submit any new finds, bottles and ephemera, to fmeyer@fmgdesign.com. We need to pay homage to the great Carlyn Ring and Bill Ham, authors of the three books.



Bill Ham's Bitters Bottles books are stored in California and need to be shipped to Houston, Texas. This includes 186 boxes of *Bitters Bottles* (6/box), 50 boxes (6/box) of *Bitters Bottles Supplement* and 20 boxes (6/box) of *Bitters Bottles Supplement 2*. A new sales and marketing campaign to sell the remaining books is in motion. Cyndy Forbes, Bills wife, said with a humorous but firm option to send the books to the nearest landfill, which of course, would be tragic.

